

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1057 - SB 1262

March 25, 2015

SUMMARY OF BILL: Establishes a Congressional Redistricting Commission in July 2021 and in January every 10 years thereafter, in years ending in the number 1 (e.g., 2031, 2041, etc.). The commission will consist of five members, as follows: one member appointed by each of the respective leaders of the House of Representatives and Senate majority and minority parties, and a fifth nonvoting member to be appointed by majority vote of the initial four members. The fifth nonvoting member will act as the commission's chairperson. No action may be taken to develop a redistricting plan until the commission's chair has been appointed.

Commission members will receive no compensation but will be eligible for reimbursement of expenses and mileage. Employees of the commission will be compensated as determined by the commission and will not have preferred service status, but will be subject to personnel policies applicable to state employees. No member or employee of the commission may campaign for elective office or actively participate in or contribute to any political campaign of any candidate for federal elective office while a member or employee of the commission.

States the commission's meetings will be open to the public and the commission will maintain a web site. All records and information in the possession of the commission will be open for inspection by members of the public. Establishes criteria in which the commission shall develop a redistricting plan. Upon approval of a plan by three of the voting members of the commission, but no later than September 30 of any year ending in the number one, the commission will submit the plan to the Tennessee General Assembly (TGA) and will notify the public through the publication of notice in at least two newspapers of general circulation in each grand division of the state. The plan will then be drafted as legislation for introduction to the TGA. Any technical corrections will be made prior to introduction of the legislation and a summary of the corrections will be posted on the commission's web site. In the event that the plan is not enacted by the General Assembly by November 1, the commission may submit the plan or plans developed to the Tennessee Supreme Court, which may then select and publish one of the submitted plans to serve as the plan for the state. If the Supreme Court does not select a plan on or before December 1, the clerk of the Supreme Court must file a notice with the United States district court in Nashville. No later than 30 days after receiving such notice, the United States district court will develop and publish a final plan for Tennessee.

The commission will be attached to the Comptroller of the Treasury for all administrative matters relating to receipts, disbursements, expense accounts, budget, audit, and other related items. The commission may employ the services of experts, consultants, and support staff, including attorneys, as necessary to carry out its duties. The Commissioner of the Department of Finance and Administration will seek all available federal funding for the establishment and

operation of the commission, implementation of the redistricting plan, and other necessary expenses, including the expenses of any special sessions of the TGA.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures –

Exceeds \$100,000/FY20-21 and Every Ten Years Thereafter

Other Fiscal Impact – To the extent the Commissioner of the Department of Finance and Administration is successful in obtaining federal funding for this purpose, all state expenditures resulting from the bill could be funded with new federal funding. The extent of any potential federal funding received is unknown.

Assumptions:

- The Department of State and the Administrative Office of the Courts both confirm this bill will have no fiscal impact on departmental operations.
- The Comptroller of the Treasury reports the department has statutory responsibility to assist and advise in redistricting efforts and the department assumes any reasonable personnel and equipment would be presently contained within the budget.
- It is reasonable to presume this bill will increase state expenditures as a result of utilizing additional assets, expense reimbursements made to commission members, expenses incurred for the commission to employ the services from experts, consultants, attorneys and other individuals, costs of required publications, and costs associated with obtaining a final approved version of redistricting through the TGA. Given these factors, the increase in state expenditures is reasonably estimated to exceed \$100,000 each redistricting cycle.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Jeffrey L. Spalding, Executive Director

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